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Eva Saar

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KENYON & KENYON LLP
ONE BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10004

EXAMINER

FIELDS, COURTNEY D

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/550,232	Applicant(s) SAAR ET AL.	
	Examiner COURTNEY D. FIELDS	Art Unit 2437	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 March 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claim 19 has been amended.
2. Claims 15-28 are pending.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 03 March 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. Referring to the rejection of claim 15, the Applicant contends that the prior art (Nassor) does not disclose identically disclose using signatures in order to release a data processing unit to process project data belonging to the project once the signature is verified as correct. The Examiner respectfully disagrees and asserts that Nassor discloses the operating system of the card can perform a preliminary operation in which it verifies whether the codes C, P, the sequence number and the value n-dat received are in fact identical to those of the command sent previously. If they match, the n-dat bytes received are stored starting at the address ADR-dat-P read in the table TAB_APPLI. Once the last byte has been written, the operating system recalculates the signature of the data by means of a cryptographic calculation using the value of the key SWAP. The recalculated signature is then compared to the value "SGN-dat-P/1" written in the table TAB_APPLI. If the two signature values are not equal, the data received from the network is considered not to be identical to that unloaded previously. There is therefore a doubt as to the authenticity or integrity of the data received. The card returns to the reader an error message indicating the reception of erroneous data during

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the last load operation, and the impossibility of continuing the transaction. (See Column 22, lines 1-20) If the two values are equal, the data received are considered to be identical to those previously unloaded by the card: the first transaction can therefore continue. The operating system of the card then updates the table TAB_APPLI by setting the indicator for the data of the application P/1 to "Loaded." (See Column 22, lines 21-26)

3. Therefore, the rejection of claims 15-28 are maintained in view of the reasons above and in view of the reasons below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 15-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nassor (US Patent No. 6,687,800).

Referring to the rejection of claim 15, Nassor discloses a method for releasing a data processing unit for processing project data of a project; comprising:

requesting usage permission (i.e. chip card) for using the data processing unit to process project data belonging to a predetermined project; (See Column 3, lines 32-39)

generating a first signature by signing predetermined project data belonging to the project; (See Column 6, lines 18-28)

verifying the first signature for correctness; (See Column 8, lines 9-15)

and releasing the data processing unit to process the project data belonging to the project if the first signature is verified as correct. (See Column 8, lines 15-20)

Referring to the rejection of claim 16, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein the first signature is generated in a device for generating a usage permission, the predetermined project data being transmitted via a communication network to the usage-permission generating device. (See Column 4, lines 49-60)

Referring to the rejection of claim 17, Nassor discloses a method for releasing a data processing unit for processing project data of a project; comprising:

requesting usage permission (i.e. chip card) for using the data processing unit to process project data belonging to a predetermined project, the predetermined project data being cryptographically protected; (See Column 3, lines 32-39)

transmitting the predetermined, cryptographically protected project data via a communication network to a usage-permission generating device; (See Column 4, lines 49-60)

generating a first signature by signing the predetermined, cryptographically protected project data belonging to the project, the predetermined, cryptographically

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protected project data being signed by the usage-permission generating device (i.e. chip card); (See Column 6, lines 18-28)

verifying the first signature for correctness; (See Column 8, lines 9-15)

and releasing the data processing unit to process the project data belonging to the project if the first signature is verified as correct. (See Column 8, lines 15-20)

Referring to the rejection of claim 18, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein

generating a second signature by signing the predetermined project data; (See Column 5, lines 39-44)

transmitting the predetermined project data and the second signature to the usage- permission generating device; (See Column 4, lines 49-60)

verifying the second signature for correctness; (See Column 8, lines 9-15)

and the first signature is generated from the predetermined project data only if the second signature verified as correct. (See Column 8, lines 15-20)

Referring to the rejection of claim 19, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein

generating a second signature by signing the predetermined, cryptographically protected project data; (See Column 5, lines 39-44)

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transmitting the predetermined, cryptographically protected project data and the second signature to the usage-permission generating device; (See Column 4, lines 49-60)

verifying the second signature for correctness; (See Column 8, lines 9-15)

and generating the first signature from the predetermined, cryptographically protected project data only if the second signature is correct. (See Column 8, lines 15-20)

Referring to the rejection of claim 20, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein generating an invoice data record for usage of the data processing unit for the client as a function of the predetermined project data. (See Column 6, lines 49-51)

Referring to the rejection of claim 21, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein assigning a client a plurality of value units for the release of the data processing unit for multiple projects, wherein the plurality of value units are devalued in response to a request by the client for a usage right. (See Column 8, lines 21-24)

Referring to the rejection of claim 22, Nassor discloses A communication system for releasing a data processing unit for processing project data of a selected project, comprising:

a computer assigned to a client; (See Column 3, lines 53-55)

a data processing unit implemented in the computer; (See Column 3, lines 35-39)

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a memory device, the memory device being a part of data processing unit and in which predetermined project data of at least one project to be processed are stored;

(See Column 4, lines 5-20)

a usage-permission generating device assigned to the computer, the usage-permission generating device including: (See Column 3, lines 32-39)

a first device for generating a first signature from the predetermined project data of a selected project, (See Column 6, lines 18-28)

wherein the computer has a device for verifying the first signature and for releasing the data processing unit, (See Column 8, lines 9-15)

which releases the data processing unit for processing the project data belonging to the selected project only if the first signature is determined correct. (See Column 8, lines 15-20)

Referring to the rejection of claim 23, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein

a first interface associated with the computer, the interface being used for connection to a communication network; (See Column 3, lines 58-59)

a device associated with the computer for cryptographically protecting the predetermined project data; (See Column 6, lines 18-28)

and a second interface associated with the usage-permission generating device, the interface being used for connection to a communication network so that the first

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signature can be transmitted via the communication network to the computer. (See Column 4, lines 58-60)

Referring to the rejection of claim 24, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein the computer is assigned a second signature device for generating a second signature from the predetermined project data; the computer is designed for transmitting the second signature and the associated, predetermined project data via a communication network to the usage-permission generating device; and further comprising (See Column 5, lines 39-44):

a second device for verifying the second signature, the second device being associated with the usage-permission generating device, wherein the first signature device generates the first signature only if the second signature is determined correct. (See Column 8, lines 9-15)

Referring to the rejection of claim 25, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein the computer is assigned a second signature device for generating a second signature from the predetermined, cryptographically protected project data; the computer is designed for transmitting the second signature and the associated, predetermined, cryptographically protected project data via the communication network to the usage-permission generating device; and further comprising (See Column 5, lines 39-44):

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a second device for verifying the second signature, the second device being associated with the usage-permission generating device, wherein the first signature device generates the first signature only if the second signature is determined correct (See Column 8, lines 9-15)

Referring to the rejection of claim 26, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein a device for generating an invoice data record for the client for usage of the data processing unit as a function of the predetermined project data of a selected project. (See Column 6, lines 49-51)

Referring to the rejection of claim 27, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein the usage-permission generating device is a chip card in which the first signature device is implemented and which is able to generate a predetermined number of first signatures; and further comprising:

a chip card reader assigned to the computer. (See Column 21, lines 19-26 and Column 2, lines 57-60)

Referring to the rejection of claim 28, Nassor discloses the claimed limitation wherein

a memory assigned to the computer in which at least one value unit for release, with costs, of the data processing unit for processing project data of at least one selected project is stored for at least one client; (See Column 8, lines 15-21)

and a device for devaluing the at least one value unit. (See Column 8, lines 21-24)

Conclusion

2. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to COURTNEY D. FIELDS whose telephone number is (571)272-3871. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs. 6:00 - 4:00 pm; off every Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Courtney D. Fields/
Examiner, Art Unit 2437
June 12, 2009

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2437